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Wallace R. Farrington, Editor

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TUESDAY JANUARY 26, 1909

ORGANIC ACT AMENDMENTS ARE HEARD: NOW ACT.

The bill amending the Organic Act has been published Governor Frear's statement before Congress has been put before the people and the Governor has made his extended explanation.

What do you intend to do?

The people were dissatisfied with the method in which this very important bill was handled. They wanted to know.

They have been informed in a large measure as to what the bill means. They should now declare themselves and give the bill the backing that can be secured for such portions of it as are generally approved.

The people were entirely justified in calling a halt until they could learn more of what had been done and what is in contemplation. They are standing in their own light if they come to a permanent standstill.

From the observation of public sentiment made by this paper, the only sections to which there is serious objection at the present time are those dealing with the public lands and the sweeping provisions that except Hawaii from certain laws that may or may not be enacted at this session of Congress.

The proposed amendments of the land laws are in line with the recommendations of the special advisory land commission appointed by the Governor. If the Legislature had not taken action on the land question there would seem to be no particular reason why the amendments mapped out by this commission should not carry through without further reference to the Legislature of Hawaii.

It should be recalled, however, and many appear to have forgotten it—that the Legislature of 1907 passed a joint resolution providing for a Land Commission to serve without pay, investigate the status of the land laws, and report to the Governor not later than July 1, 1908, such report to include all their recommendations "together with such bill or bills to be presented to the Legislature, to carry into effect such recommendations as they may prepare."

This joint resolution passed both houses of the Legislature. Governor Carter treated it to a pocket veto.

Thus it was not legally binding on anyone. But it is obvious that the representatives of the people of the Territory of Hawaii were settled in the opinion that any bills dealing with the administration of the public lands should be presented first to the local Legislature.

Governor Frear carried out a part of the Legislature's program when he appointed the Advisory Land Commission.

He ignored a very important detail when he jumped over the head of the local Legislature and went direct to Congress. This put him in the position of getting his law passed and while the Legislature whistled.

However, there may yet be time to present the matter to the Legislature and secure an expression in time for Congress to act or postpone, as suits the sentiment of Hawaii.

Meanwhile, let the people move forward.

Though the section of many exceptions and the land law section may prove doubtful, the people should agree on other portions of the bill and say so.

Governor Frear is understood to feel that he has not been given the support he deserved. This is to be regretted, but it is not the issue.

The desire of the people is the present unknown quantity that has to be demonstrated. And the disagreement of some of them with the Governor on certain points is no good reason why anyone of caliber should get an attack of the sulks or seek reprisals on citizens who have refused and will continue opposed to doing as they are told when they believe the volunteer dictators are wrong.

The Chamber of Commerce having heard what the Governor has to say on the amendment of the Organic Act, having had an opportunity to read the bill and the discussion of it here and in Washington, should meet for further discussion, if necessary,

and ACTION for or against the bill as a whole or in part.

The Merchants' Association should do the same. Let there be ACTION. The Republican committee should express itself. The Hilo Board of Trade should be heard from. The Waialua Improvement Association is not too small to have voice and influence. And the Democratic party might add to the fund of information and comment.

Whether this action has any effect on Congress, it must be of inestimable value in shaping the course of the Legislature which is about to meet.

The people should demand a hearing at all times. But after they get it, they should not sit around like lumps on a log and do nothing.

MOVING PICTURE MORALS.

Editor Evening Bulletin: I think it would be a good plan for our Sheriff or one of his deputies to visit the moving picture shows at each change of program, so as to suppress anything immoral.

The management of the theater to which I have reference advertises "Nothing objectionable," and still, one of the numbers on his program last week was decidedly indecent.

These shows are the only public places of amusement running just now, and are patronized daily by hundreds of school children, and it is a pity they cannot be kept clean.

A MOTHER.

Honolulu, Jan. 26, '09.

There is but one response to this appeal. The films shown by the moving-picture concerns of this city should be above reproach. Instances of the violation of good morals should be dealt with by the proper authorities promptly and decisively.

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A very attractive cottage near the car line, at a bargain for the next ten days.

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IT IS TO SMILE.

Editor Evening Bulletin: "But if one or two republicans were to complain at Washington, representing that the majority of republicans objected to the bill—if they should lie, and say so—then the people at Washington would probably wait with taking action until they could obtain more information."—Governor Frear, in Bulletin, January 20.

In my opinion, the Governor is taking mighty chances with his bill if its passage depends upon not being able to find two republicans in Hawaii who will lie. It's my experience that it is difficult to find that many republicans in this Territory who will tell the truth about public affairs. Of course the truth is in very many of them but they are careful not to let it out.

You can put it down as a pretty safe guess that the bill will not pass and the Democrats claim all the credit and assume all the responsibility for having killed it. The Governor handed us no choice of weapons. The terms were—"Shoot first and explain afterward." The Democrats are not afraid of the light and will be on hand with explanations at the proper time.

Moral: When you're going to take a sneak, look out for Democrats.

F. J. RYAN.

LEGISLATURE

(Continued from Page 1)
and previous good work entitles him. But there are members who claim that Holstein must "come through" with promises on certain committee chairmanships before he can be certain of reelection. In other words, he must be tractable. Whether the men who want to "manage Holstein" are in a majority or not remains to be seen.

Among the matters to be dealt with in the conferences before the Legislature meets will probably be the taxation problem. So many taxation schemes are being brought to the front that an effort will be made to get the Republican members together on a general line of policy although no exact bill may be framed to rise to the dignity of an Administration measure. Many wise heads are scratching these days to determine how the present income can be made to go around or enough money obtained from new sources to provide for additional expenses such as the increase of the militia, an active immigration campaign, development of public works, pensions for teachers, the College of Hawaii, decent salaries for teachers, and various other necessities that are the result of the changing conditions associated with the growth of Hawaii.

What the Democrats will do is not known. They will be more of a factor than ever before on account of their increased membership in the Senate, the usual blockading ground of foolish legislation.

The Philippine Constabulary Band will arrive here on the transport Buford and will give one concert in this city. The band was one of the attractions at the St. Louis fair and is now about to be sent to the Alaska-Yukon-Pacific Exposition.

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STRONGARM VICTIM ACCUSES PORTUGUESE

Mori Believes That He
Could Identify The
Robbers

From the story told by Mori, the Japanese who was held up last night on Kukul street, it is believed that the robbers were Portuguese. The men, three in number, carried pistols and long knives. These weapons frightened Mori so that he obeyed orders and allowed the highwaymen to go through his pockets.

"I was scared of those men, because they had pistols and knives," said Mori this morning, when interviewed in the office of Chief Kakalela. "One of those men was painted black. He came directly in front of me and asked me to give him my valuables. The other two, were not painted at all, but they had their knives pointed at me. These were sufficient to scare any man. I am pretty sure that the men were Portuguese and not Porto Ricans." Right at this point, Medeiros, assistant chief of detectives, who was near by, asked Mori how he could identify the men as being Portuguese. "I am pretty well familiar with the features of the Portuguese," said Mori. "I can tell the difference between Portuguese and Porto Ricans. Of course some Porto Ricans are light in their complexion, but there are certain differences between them. The men got from me 50 cents in cash, two ahina pants and some Japanese kimono. As soon as they got these, they went away in haste towards Liliha street."

Mori stated afterwards that if the men were produced he believed he could identify them.

MANY WANT WORK ON DREDGING JOB

That the Hawaiian Dredging Company will have no great difficulty in securing workmen to handle the Pearl Harbor job seems assured. Not only have a large number of local men signified a desire to secure employment on the dredging work, but communications have been received from the mainland asking what the chances are of securing employment.

When the contract was first awarded, the Dillingham Company announced that, as far as possible, local men would be employed on the work. This means that if there are enough skilled dredge operators in Honolulu or the Hawaiian Islands to handle the job, no outside assistance will be asked of accepted.

It is furthermore announced that, as far as possible, all materials needed will be purchased here on the ground, that Hawaii may derive the greatest possible amount of benefit from the awarding of the contract to a local firm.

It is not believed, however, that there will be enough skilled workmen here to handle all of the work that is projected.

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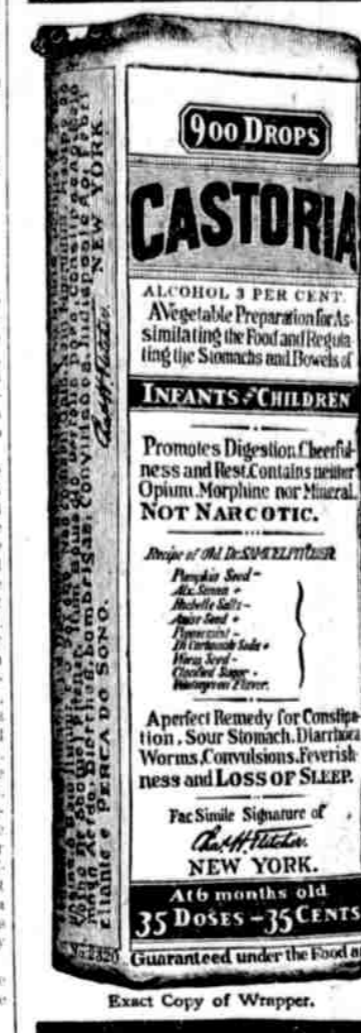
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